

# The Republic of Kazakhstan Update:

---

## Military Doctrine and Policy



GEORGIY DUBOVTSSEV  
Republic of Kazakhstan

---

Open Source, Foreign Perspective, Underconsidered/Understudied Topics

---



**The Foreign Military Studies Office (FMSO)** at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, is an open source research organization of the U.S. Army. It was founded in 1986 as an innovative program that brought together military specialists and civilian academics to focus on military and security topics derived from unclassified, foreign media. Today FMSO maintains this research tradition of special insight and highly collaborative work by conducting unclassified research on foreign perspectives of defense and security issues that are understudied or unconsidered.

### **Author Background**

Colonel (ret) Georgiy Fedorovich Dubovtsev was born in 1956 in Alma-Ata (now Almaty), Kazakhstan. He graduated from the Sverdlovsk Suvorov Military School in 1973, the Alma-Ata Higher Military Command School in 1977, the Frunze Military Academy in 1988, and the George C. Marshall Center in 1997. COL Dubovtsev holds a Candidate of Military Science degree and is a member of the Russian Federation Academy of Military Sciences. He has held numerous positions in the Soviet and Republic of Kazakhstan's Armed Forces. His last position in uniformed service was Head of the Department of Military Education and Science in the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Kazakhstan. After his retirement in July 2009 COL Dubovtsev headed the Center for Military and Strategic Studies of Kazakhstan until July 2012. He has published more than 80 articles on national security, military affairs, military construction, and development and training of the Armed Forces. COL Dubovtsev participated in the development of, among others, the Kazakh National Security Strategy and the Military Doctrine of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

---

FMSO has provided some editing, format, and graphics to this paper to conform to organizational standards. Academic conventions, source referencing, and citation style are those of the author.

The views expressed are those of the author and do not represent the official policy or position of the Department of the Army, Department of Defense, or the U.S. government.

## **Introduction by Charles Bartles, FMSO**

*The Armed Forces of the Republic of Kazakhstan were formed soon after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Since this time Kazakhstan has published several military doctrines, specifically in 1993, 2000, 2007, 2011. These documents are useful for examining the Kazakh political-military leadership's threat perception, how this perception has changed over the years, and, most importantly, how Kazakhstan should respond to these threats. Kazakhstan's military doctrine has continued to shape the Kazakh Armed Forces from a post-Soviet mass mobilization army focused on large scale warfare to a smaller brigade-based army more capable of handling the low intensity conflicts and military operations that Kazakhstan will likely face.*

*Efforts to reform and modernize the Kazakh Armed Forces include abolishing Soviet division/regimental formations and adopting a brigade-based structure, as well as developing "Air Mobile Forces" brigades, which have designated units assigned to potentially augment UN peacekeeping (35th Air Assault Brigade) and Collective Security Treaty Organization peacekeeping support operations. Kazakhstan has also taken a keen interest in enlisted professionalization and has established a three-year NCO academy to develop "officer assistants" to increase small unit discipline and combat effectiveness.*

*Kazakhstan's military doctrine and reform initiatives may seem a distant concern for the U.S. military, but recent announcements by the U.S. Department of Defense are cause to bring the capabilities of partners and potential partners to the forefront of discussion. U.S. Army Chief of Staff General Ray Odierno announced the U.S. Army will begin to align brigades with specific unified*

*combatant commands. He stated that this will be “a new model for building partnerships that enhances ongoing Army security cooperation missions while developing soldiers’ familiarity with a region where they may operate.” As the U.S. Army transitions to this Regionally Aligned Brigade (RAB) concept, increasing attention must be paid to our security cooperation partners and the trends, reforms, and developments in their militaries.*

*The following 2011 Kazakh Military Doctrine document and analysis by retired Kazakh Colonel Georgiy Dubovtsev, a participant in the development of this doctrine, sheds some light on the future of the Kazakh Armed Forces. The United States worked with these forces in Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2003-2008, when a total of 290 Kazakh engineer-sappers rotated through Iraq to support peace keeping operations. The United States has also become a regular participant in Kazakhstan’s annual “Steppe Eagle” peacekeeping exercise since it began in 2003. Kazakhstan has shown a great interest in participating in peacekeeping operations, and it may possibly deploy elements of KAZBRIG (Kazakh Peacekeeping Brigade) in the near future in support of UN peacekeeping operations. Kazakhstan’s history of past participation with the United States in peacekeeping operations and interest in participating in future peacekeeping operations make it likely that Kazakh and U.S. forces will work together in the near future.*

# Republic of Kazakhstan Update:

## Military Doctrine and Policy

By *Georgiy Dubovtsev*  
Republic of Kazakhstan  
Edited by Charles Bartles, FMSO

The world community is currently going through a special period of development. The last decade has changed the world dramatically. With globalization, countries' growing economic interdependence and the democratization of international relations are creating unprecedented development opportunities, while making the entire system more vulnerable. The uneven distribution of natural resources, widening gap



Map of Republic of Kazakhstan.

[Public Domain], via <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/kz.html>

between developed and developing countries, economic expansion, differences in approach to socio-political structure and other negative aspects of globalization could exacerbate interstate conflicts, whose resolution may well involve the use of military or other coercive means.

Contrary to expectations, the changed world is not predictable and safe. In the second decade of the 21st century, national security is still fundamentally important for every country, including Kazakhstan. Furthermore, as the events taking place along Kazakhstan's border have shown, military security should not be relegated to second place. Military conflicts of varying scale could be unleashed with the escalation of territorial, national, ethnic, and religious animosities, the continuing threat of proliferation of nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction, and international terrorism's expanded sphere of operation.

Analysis shows that global and regional military security threats have been undergoing considerable change. The asymmetric actions of destructive forces and formations that differ from the classic military techniques of regular armed forces are as significant as traditional challenges and threats. These actions are flexible and unexpected, and their perpetrators actively recruit from among the civilian population, and use them to camouflage their actions.

Most military science institutions have been actively studying the new forms and methods of waging armed combat against these asymmetric threats, the difficulty being that customary and standard approaches and tools do not produce an assured advantage or decisive superiority in that type of combat. For that reason security is becoming less predominantly military-political and more a combination of military-political, economic, environmental, technological, information,

***“The greatest threat to Kazakhstan’s security and regional stability over the mid-term are an unstable domestic, economic and social climate; growth of ethnic and demographic tension in some neighboring countries, which could push much of the population toward extremist fighting methods; transnational terrorism and religious extremism; organized crime; arms and drug trafficking; shortage of natural resources, especially water; and deterioration of the environment.”***

social and other elements to counter new security challenges and threats for which there is no simple or unequivocal solution.

The very content of military conflicts is changing. The international community is up against a new type of warfare based on the use of indirect strategic actions, including political and psychological pressure, show of force, economic sanctions and information warfare. The chief threats emanate not from regular armies but rather from various extremist, terrorist and criminal organizations that use transborder guerilla warfare methods. Enjoying not only the moral but also the considerable financial support of some states, as well as of their patrons and supporters in many countries that are officially fighting international terrorism, terrorist structures are stepping up their activity in various regions of the world.



Kazakh Armed Forces emblem

Meanwhile, military systems designed for classic combat between regular armed forces have proved unable to adapt to this type of warfare, just as special service capabilities are often insufficient to effectively fight such threats. All of this introduces much that is new into the theory and practice of employment of the armed forces. In the face of these challenges the armed forces have had to take on the unaccustomed role of working with interior and border troops, law enforcement and special services.

With respect to Kazakhstan in particular, nowadays, a correctly formulated and executed military policy is in many ways the key not only to effective military and law enforcement work but also to success in attaining Kazakhstan’s economic development milestones.

In response to the new challenges and threats to national security, in late 2011 the Republic of Kazakhstan approved a new National Security Strategy and a new military doctrine, which state that threats to the country’s security are primarily linked to developments in Central Asia and bordering states. This is why a comprehensive analysis of the geopolitical situation in the Central Asian and adjacent regions and of neighboring countries’ foreign policies is critical to defining the priorities of the military development of and how to further enhance and improve the Kazakh Armed Forces.



The military doctrine points out that the situation around Kazakhstan has changed radically over the last few years, with the emergence of new destabilizing regional factors that pose a threat to national security. The greatest threat to Kazakhstan's security and regional stability over the mid-term are an unstable domestic, economic and social climate; growth of ethnic and demographic tension in some neighboring countries, which could push much of the population toward extremist fighting methods; transnational terrorism and religious extremism; organized crime; arms and drug trafficking; shortage of natural resources, especially water; and deterioration of the environment.



Kazakh Air Mobile Forces Soldiers preparing for air assault operations

A low intensity conflict involving Kazakhstan is likely if international terrorist formations in adjacent states step up their activity. Armed conflicts could also result from subversion of the political system in Central Asian republics by the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), supported by the Hizb ut-Tahrir religious extremist party, the Taliban and other extremist groups, with the goal of setting up an Islamic caliphate in Central Asia.

These national security threats require adequate assessment and appropriate measures. Vital national interests are unlikely to be effectively protected unless the country's military policy and military organization adapt to the changed realities. It would also be irrational to develop the Kazakh Army to counter all hypothetically possible threats, since that would call for strength and equipment which not only Kazakhstan but even wealthier countries cannot afford. The point of departure must be the country's actual economic and technological capability.



Kazakh Air Mobile Forces Soldiers conducting air assault operations

Military policy is therefore being implemented in accordance with the principal doctrinal precepts of Kazakhstan's national security strategy, taking into account an objective assessment of the military-political situation in the world and particularly in Central Asia, and the government's official policy of countering military security threats and averting all conflicts using all the levers of state power, with priority being placed on political and economic measures and preventive diplomacy. The essence of this policy is that Kazakhstan will make extensive use of partnership, cooperation, dialogue and foreign policy ties with other countries and international organizations to prevent military conflicts, and, should they arise, to defuse conflict situations at an early stage.

Only after all political, economic and diplomatic levers have been used will military force be employed as a last-ditch effort to protect Kazakhstan's vital national interests.

After the President Nazarbayev approved independent Kazakhstan's fourth military doctrine on October 2011, a detailed analysis of all raw data was used as the basis for reviewing the conceptual approaches to further developing and training the Armed Forces. Most important in further transforming the Kazakh Army is to take into consideration the military threats which the military doctrine views as the chief ones over the mid-term. The Armed Forces' top priority task is to be prepared to carry out combat missions in low- and medium-intensity conflicts.

It is precisely to deal with such conflicts that Kazakhstan needs a small, highly mobile, and professional army with much better command and control systems, communications and information support. The country's military-political leadership believes that such an army will be able to effectively operate in low-intensity conflicts with its peacetime strength, support the border and interior troops, and participate in peacekeeping and antiterrorist operations, including cooperation with allied troops.

Accordingly, the Armed Forces' strength and structure are being brought into line with the present-day military-political situation and the likelihood of possible military threats, which means creating an army that is balanced in strength and structure, adapted to modern threats, and highly combat capable and optimally funded. The principles of troop use planning have been reprioritized, the chief ones being:

- transition from line tactics to precision operations;
- self-sufficient and independent force groupings;
- rapid command and control, and extensive use of automated troop command and control and weapons guidance systems;
- equipment with new types of weapons and materiel, including precision weapons.

To implement these principles, the pivots for raising the quality and radically impacting the state of the Kazakh Army have been identified.

***“Improvement of Kazakhstan's defense policy rests on selecting the most effective ways, methods and means of protecting its vital interests that are adequate to 21st century military security threats.”***

**First.** Modernize command and control and military planning.

A new structure of central command and control bodies has been designed and approved to



modernize the command and control system. The role and responsibility of each body have been clearly delineated based on the experience of advanced countries.

**Second.** Improve the Armed Forces' combat capability to flexibly respond to present-day challenges and threats. The main philosophy behind the new organizational and manning structure is preparedness for multi-option operations, with rapid buildup of forces and assets in the requisite area and at the required time.

As the military doctrine requires, emphasis has been placed on qualitative parameters, i.e., increasing the number of permanently combat-ready forces with a unified organizational and manning structure. Optimization of strength and structure has enhanced the Armed Forces' combat capacity and combat readiness.

Since every regional command has permanently combat-ready forces, and given the increased mobility and ability to build up troops in critical areas, the Armed Forces are able counter a wide range of potential threats with available forces and assets without the need for mobilization.

**Third.** More intensive and better combat training, which is the chief content of Armed Forces activity in peacetime. The key criteria here are effectiveness and maximum return from every lesson and exercise. These criteria have been built into the funding philosophy of combat training.

**Fourth.** Equipment of the Armed Forces, which is the cornerstone of combat readiness, is inextricably linked to combat training.



Kazakh Air Mobile Forces Soldiers conducting air assault operations

Transformation of the army calls for technological changes, which will bring new weapons systems and materiel, forms and methods of fighting, and greater combat capability overall.

Modern materiel and automated command and control systems, as well as precision weapons, will enable the smaller Armed Forces to carry out military security tasks more effectively. The experience of foreign armies shows that automated command and control systems significantly increase combat capability.

**Fifth.** Assembling the reliable cadres, without which our Armed Forces cannot be modernized, since the effectiveness of every army hinges on personnel professionalism and the training and motivation of military cadres to execute tasks in both peacetime and wartime.

Military education is a vital tool for developing army cadres. Improving military education involves introducing progressive forms of military training that meet the highest foreign standards, and upgrading faculty quality and the material and technical facilities of military academies.

The Armed Forces provides a successful multilevel course of training for the most promising officers and sergeants prior to promoting them.

Better military training and measures to improve the welfare of servicemen have made military service more attractive, enhanced the image of the Armed Forces and motivated servicemen to fulfill their military duty, making it possible to raise the quality bar of the Armed Force. This has positively impacted combat training and, as a consequence, combat readiness.

The military-political leadership believes that comprehensive implementation of the above measures to improve the Kazakh Army will take it to a new qualitative level that is consistent with military innovations, projections of the military-political situation, and the country's defense and security policy.

The radical change of the military-political situation and the cardinal changes in the military sphere necessitate further qualitative changes in Kazakhstan's national security efforts, military organization and Armed Forces. Improvement of Kazakhstan's defense policy rests on selecting the most effective ways, methods and means of protecting its vital interests that are adequate to 21st century military security threats.

# **Military Doctrine of the Republic of Kazakhstan**

**APPROVED**

by order No. 161 of the President  
of the Republic of Kazakhstan  
dated October 11, 2011

## **MILITARY DOCTRINE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**

Astana, 2011

### **Contents**

1. Introduction
2. Analysis of the Republic of Kazakhstan's current military security situation
3. Basic tenets
4. Conclusion

### **1. Introduction**

The Military Doctrine of the Republic of Kazakhstan (hereafter called the Military Doctrine) is a system of views on ensuring military security, preventing wars and armed conflicts (hereafter called military conflicts), developing the military organization, and using the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations.

The Military Doctrine defines the objectives, fundamental principles and forms of pursuing the Republic of Kazakhstan's military security policy.

The Military Doctrine is based on military theory, a comprehensive assessment and strategic forecast of medium-term developments in the world and regional military-political situation.

The legal basis of the Military Doctrine is the Constitution, laws, Presidential decrees and other regulatory legal instruments, as well as international agreements ratified by the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The Military Doctrine is defensive in character; its tenets combine a consistent commitment to peace with a resolve to defend the national interests and guarantee the country's military security.

The Military Doctrine specifies the conditions and principal areas of development of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations with the object of countering present-day military security threats, including asymmetrical threats, and combating international terrorism, including cyber terrorism, ethnic and religious extremism, and illicit arms trafficking.



The following basic concepts are used in the Military Doctrine:

- 1) Republic of Kazakhstan military security – a condition in which the vital interests of the individual, society and state are safeguarded against domestic and external threats related to the use of or the intent to use military force;
- 2) military conflict – a clash, fighting, or form of resolving antagonisms between countries, nations or social groups using military force (the concept covers all types of armed confrontation, including wars and armed conflicts);
- 3) war – a socio-political phenomenon related to a shift to the use of means of armed violence to achieve political, economic and other objectives in relations between countries, nations or social groups;
- 4) armed conflict – an armed clash of limited scope, a form of resolving national, ethnic, religious or other antagonisms using means of armed violence without a country's moving to a state of war;
- 5) a low-intensity military conflict is an armed conflict resulting from the escalation of border conflicts or the activity of illegal armed groups or terrorist organizations inside a country;
- 6) a mid-intensity military conflict is a war between countries with little economic or military capability;
- 7) a high-intensity military conflict is a war involving militarily and economically powerful countries (coalitions);
- 8) military organization – the totality of the Armed Forces, other troops and military formations, government agencies and organizations, the purpose of whose joint activity is to ensure the Republic of Kazakhstan's military security;
- 9) self-sufficient force grouping – a multiservice (multi-agency) force grouping capable of autonomously carrying out military security tasks in the event of low-intensity conflicts;
- 10) strategic deployment of the Armed Forces is a set of measures, including transition of the Armed Forces from a peacetime to wartime footing, operational-strategic (operational) deployment of force groupings, strategic regrouping, and deployment of priority strategic reserves;
- 11) military security threat – an instability factor that could involve the use of means of military violence to achieve political or other objectives; the intention to resolve existing antagonisms using military force.

## **2. Analysis of the Republic of Kazakhstan's Current Military Security Situation**

The Republic of Kazakhstan ensures its military security by pursuing a policy of cooperation and neighborly relations between nations, equality and noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and peaceful resolution of international disputes, by adhering to no first use of military force, strengthening its military organization based on anticipated threats, and determining and employing the most effective forms and methods to neutralize them.

Pursuant to the course set in the Republic's previous Military Doctrine, much has been done to ensure military security, improve the military organization, and build small but technically well-equipped and highly mobile Armed Forces.

Kazakhstan now has an optimal tripartite Armed Forces structure made up of Ground Forces, Air Defense Forces and the Navy.

The Ground Forces includes the four regional commands as well as the Air Mobile Troops, Missile Troops and artillery, thereby creating a combat-capable land component of the Armed Forces.

An Air Defense Forces structure has been finalized to efficiently develop the combatant arms – the Air Force and the Air Defense Troops.

Self-sufficient force groupings were set up in several strategic areas; the force grouping in the western strategic area is being strengthened.

Progress is ongoing in military security planning and inter-agency cooperation.

Ministry of the Interior Troops are being steadily built and developed according to plan, facilitating the formation of mobile, professionally trained forces on standby to ensure the security of the individual, society and country and protect the rights and freedoms of individuals and citizens from criminal and other illegal infringements. The National Security Committee's Border Service has been improving border security. Five regional commands have been set up: South, North, East, West, and Coast Guard. Steps are being taken to strengthen border security for the benefit of the Customs Union. There is ongoing improvement and upgrading of the national warning and emergency response system, including better infrastructure for natural and other disaster and emergency preparedness and better risk management, and ongoing outfitting of emergency response forces with requisite rescue hardware and equipment, and an efficient monitoring and forecast system is being set up.

The Armed Forces, other troops and military formations are undergoing more intensive training.

Mobilization training and mobilization are being improved, and mobilization reserves are being readied.

Steps have been taken to make the domestic defense industry and research and scientific-

technological organizations more effective in strengthening the country's defense capability. Collective Rapid Reaction Force (KSOR) units were created within the Collective Security Treaty Organization and have been increasing their cooperation through joint operational and combat training.

Kazakhstan has been active in strengthening the Shanghai Cooperation Organization's anti-terrorist capability, including through participation in joint antiterrorist exercises.

The scope of military and military-technological cooperation with Russia, China, the USA and other countries has been expanding to bolster national and regional security.

However, given the deteriorating world and regional military-political situation, technological progress and better forms and methods of combat, the country's military organization must be made ever more effective against present-day military security threats, which necessitates adjusting military policy and further upgrading military security.

### **3. Basic Tenets**

#### **3.1. Projected Developments in the Military-Political Situation and Potential Military Security Threats**

The contemporary world military-political situation is very dynamic and unpredictable and marked by greater rivalry between the leading world and regional powers and the rise of separatism and national and religious extremism. The use of force in circumvention of existing international legal mechanisms destabilizes the international situation, incites tension and the arms race, and exacerbates antagonisms between countries. Unresolved military conflicts at various levels represent a threat to international peace and security.

The danger persists of proliferation of the technologies to manufacture nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, and international terrorism and religious extremism are expanding their sphere of operation.

The means of exerting military pressure and carrying out military security threats have changed. In addition to traditional military means, military-political objectives are being accomplished through the asymmetrical operations of destructive forces using global communication and information network technologies.

At the same time, the uneven distribution of natural resources, the widening gap between developed and developing countries, different approaches to national socio-political systems, and other negative aspects of globalization could exacerbate antagonisms between nations, with military and other coercive means being used to resolve them. The situation in Central Asia could deteriorate due to the persistent instability in Afghanistan, socio-political tensions in the region, border-territorial and water problems, and economic, religious and other antagonisms that are being resolved through less than ideal mechanisms. Drug trafficking and



illegal migration have become transnational problems.

The unresolved legal status of the Caspian Sea, the effort of some Caspian countries to increase their military capability, and the disputed oilfields could worsen the regional military-political situation.

The nature of the military security threats has changed significantly. External and domestic threats are more interrelated.

External military security threats to the Republic of Kazakhstan include:

- 1) socio-political instability in the region and the likelihood of armed provocations;
- 2) military conflict flashpoints close to Kazakhstan's borders;
- 3) use by foreign nations or organizations of military-political pressure and advanced information-psychological warfare technologies to interfere in Kazakhstan's internal affairs to further their own interests;
- 4) increasing influence of military-political organizations and unions to the detriment of Kazakhstan's military security;
- 5) the activity of international terrorist and radical organizations and groups, including cyber terrorism and growing religious extremism in neighboring countries;
- 6) production by some countries of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery vehicles, and illegal proliferation of the technologies, equipment and components used to manufacture them, as well as of dual purpose technologies.

Domestic military security threats could include:

- 1) extremist, nationalist and separatist movements, organizations and structures seeking to destabilize the domestic situation and change the constitutional order through armed methods;
- 2) illegal armed groups;
- 3) illegal proliferation of weapons, munitions, explosives and other devices that could be used for sabotage, terrorist acts or other illegal actions.

### 3.2. Character and Features of Present-Day Military Conflicts

Potential military security threats make it incumbent on the Republic of Kazakhstan to keep the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations ready to defend the country's vital interests in a military conflict, as well as to fulfill obligations under the international treaties it has ratified.

Every military conflict has particular socio-political, legal and military-strategic features stemming from the political objectives of the parties, its scope, the intensity of the military operations, the combat methods used, and the modes of military operation, which together determine its character.

The features of present-day military conflicts are:

- 1) advance preparation of public opinion for the inevitability of resolving antagonisms through force;
- 2) use of indirect strategic operations, including political and psychological operations, information pressure, show of force, and economic sanctions;
- 3) greater role of information warfare to disorganize the government and military command and control;
- 4) large area span, great activity and intensity, fluidity and extreme tension;
- 5) use of new and high-efficiency weapons and munitions (including precision, electromagnetic, laser and infrasound weapons);
- 6) lack of clearly defined confrontation lines and flanks; large intervals and gaps in the order of battle, enabling extensive maneuvering and active use of sabotage and reconnaissance forces;
- 7) unpredictable and unmanageable impact of disabled power plants (primarily nuclear power plants), various types of hazardous production facilities, infrastructure, communication, and critical infrastructure;
- 8) asymmetrical military conflicts due to the use of nontraditional forms and methods of combat and the involvement of special ops forces and irregular armed formations.

### 3.3. Goals and Objectives of Republic of Kazakhstan Defense Policy

The Republic of Kazakhstan is committed to the creation of a system of international relations which minimizes military force and resolves disputes between nations by political, diplomatic and legal means. The Republic of Kazakhstan does not regard any nation as its potential enemy. The chief objectives of its defense policy are to strengthen international and regional security and domestic stability, avert military conflicts and maintain the preparedness of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations to defend the Republic of Kazakhstan and its allies.

In pursuing these objectives, priority shall be given to political-diplomatic, legal, economic, humanitarian, information-propaganda and other nonmilitary measures.

The Republic of Kazakhstan will consider using military force to rebuff aggression, protect its territorial integrity and sovereignty, or fulfill its obligations under international treaties it has ratified.

The principal objectives of the Republic of Kazakhstan's defense policy are to:

- 1) use the UN and other international organizations to strengthen international and regional security, and avert and suppress military conflicts;
- 2) maintain the country's defense capability and the combat readiness and combat capability of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations at a level adequate to counter the most likely military security threats;
- 3) expand bilateral and multilateral military and military-technological cooperation to enhance collective and regional security;
- 4) fulfill international peacekeeping and security obligations, including participation in peacekeeping pursuant to UN Security Council decisions (resolutions);
- 5) monitor mutual implementation of arms limitation, reduction, nonproliferation and liquidation treaties; strengthen confidence-building measures between nations.

The Republic of Kazakhstan shall plan and implement measures to ensure military security, chief among them to:

- 1) forecast military-political developments and potential military security threats;
- 2) use partnerships and cooperation with other nations and international organizations to form a regional security system and prevent military conflicts;
- 3) maintain domestic stability and foster Kazakh patriotism, including public national defense awareness;
- 4) improve the country's defense and military organization based on the present-day military-political situation and its trends;
- 5) secure and safeguard Kazakhstan's borders, including for the benefit of the Customs Union;
- 6) ensure national mobilization readiness;
- 7) carry out systematic measures to rapidly build out national infrastructure and develop military infrastructure;
- 8) rapidly develop and upgrade domestic defense enterprises to manufacture high tech military products.



These measures will maintain the country's defense capability at a level adequate to respond to potential military security threats, prevent and suppress low- and mid-intensity military conflicts, and establish international guarantees to prevent a high-intensity military conflict.

### 3.4. Development of the Military Organization

The country's military organization shall be developed in accordance with the regulatory legal instruments governing their [sic] activity based on coordinated and integrated programs and plans, with due account for objectives and the special considerations related to deployment of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations.

The main objectives of the military organization's development are to:

- 1) achieve balanced development of all components of the military organization, modernize the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations, and rationalize their structure and composition based on their military security tasks;
- 2) improve the organization's command and control and efficiency;
- 3) improve territorial and civil defense;
- 4) improve mobilization training;
- 5) enhance the prestige of military service and raise the effectiveness of military-patriotic education of Kazakh citizens;
- 6) further develop and upgrade the defense industry's technological base, and set up facilities to manufacture high tech weapons, materiel and ammunition;
- 7) expand international military cooperation to facilitate the military organization's development, upgrade the military infrastructure, improve military personnel training, and ensure international and regional security;
- 8) update the regulatory legal base for national defense and military security.

In the medium term, the priority in the buildup and development of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations will be to train them to maintain domestic stability and carry out missions in low- and mid-intensity military conflicts.

Comprehensive development of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations involves the following:

- 1) reorganize the Ministry of Defense Joint Chiefs of Staff into the Armed Forces General Staff and increase its role in joint planning and inter-agency coordination and cooperation;

- 2) optimize and rationalize the structure of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations and strengthen their fighting component;
- 3) set up in strategic areas multiservice self-sufficient force groupings capable of ensuring military security in their zone of responsibility and adequately responding to potential military security threats;
- 4) improve command and control through automation and telecommunication, and expand the network of stationary and mobile command points of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations;
- 5) standardize and align the weapons and materiel of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations, especially the means of communication and command and control;
- 6) establish an effective information warfare system;
- 7) upgrade the country's air and missile defense;
- 8) enhance combat capability by equipping the military with modern weapons and materiel, including precision weapons, and incorporating modern simulators and information and technology tools into combat training;
- 9) set up integrated structures regionally to provision the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations in accordance with deployment and engagement plans;
- 10) centralize government purchases of weapons, materiel, special equipment and other material supplies for the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations, and optimize defense spending;
- 11) modernize military education and personnel training, and develop military science based on advanced international experience;
- 12) upgrade military and other infrastructure in the Caspian region.

These measures will raise troop quality and make the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations more combat capable.

### 3.5. Deployment of the Armed Forces and Other Troops and Military Formations

Modern and efficient Armed Forces and other troops and military formations are a key military security tool and a guarantee of domestic stability and Kazakhstan's dynamic socio-economic development.

The Armed Forces and other troops and military formations shall be deployed in accordance

with the Constitution, laws, Presidential decrees on military security, other regulatory legal instruments, as well as the Rules of Engagement and deployment and engagement plans of the Republic of Kazakhstan Armed Forces.

The Armed Forces and other troops and military formations shall be deployed and engaged to rebuff aggression, defend the country's territorial integrity and sovereignty, protect and defend national and military facilities, defend the airspace and offshore zone, maintain domestic stability, fight terrorism, carry out emergency relief operations, and undertake missions under international agreements ratified by the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The principal peacetime tasks of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations are to:

- 1) maintain fighting capability, combat and mobilization readiness, and training of peacetime strength command echelons and troops at a level adequate to localize and suppress low-intensity military conflicts or any unlawful armed violence on the national border or within the Republic of Kazakhstan;
- 2) guard the airspace and protect operationally and strategically important sections of the national border;
- 3) protect Kazakhstan's national interests in territorial waters, on the continental shelf and in the country's economic zone;
- 4) protect key and strategic sites;
- 5) ensure that the Armed Forces are ready for strategic deployment in the event of a mid- or high-intensity conflict;
- 6) prevent and suppress subversion and terrorist acts;
- 7) demonstrate preparedness to take decisive action to stabilize the domestic situation in any area of the country;
- 8) assist in enforcing a state of emergency;
- 9) assist in preventing and responding to disasters, environmental catastrophes, and various emergencies, and render aid in areas affected by natural or technogenic disasters;
- 10) take part in peacekeeping, humanitarian and other operations in accordance with Kazakhstan's international obligations.

The Armed Forces and other troops and military formations of the Republic of Kazakhstan must be constituted, staffed and provisioned in peacetime such that they are prepared for low- and mid-intensity military conflicts.

The Armed Forces and other troops and military formations shall generally be deployed in low-intensity conflicts to contain or put a stop to military operations as early as possible to create conditions for a peaceful settlement, eradicate illegal armed groups, normalize the situation, restore law and order, ensure public safety, and render necessary assistance.

These tasks shall be carried out by combat-ready formations and units, reinforced by other troops and military formations as necessary, and the operation shall be headed by a unified command.

Border conflicts shall generally be resolved by the assets and resources of the National Security Committee Border Service in cooperation with formations and units of the Armed Forces.

Ministry of the Interior Troops shall be responsible for suppressing domestic armed conflicts and may be reinforced by formations and units of the Armed Forces.

In the event of aggression against it, i.e. a mid- or high-intensity conflict, the Republic of Kazakhstan shall place government agencies and other organizations and the national economy on a wartime footing, strategically deploy the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations, defend itself with arms, take area and civil defense measures, and conduct joint operations with the armed forces of friendly nations.

The chief wartime tasks of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations are to rebuff aggression against the Republic of Kazakhstan and its allies, defeat aggressor troops, force the aggressor to stop military operations, and re-establish the situation that existed prior to the aggression. A mid-intensity military conflict may be unleashed against the Republic of Kazakhstan to undermine its administrative, economic or defense capability, seize or establish control over certain areas, or force the country to make major political, economic or other concessions.

Involvement in a mid-intensity conflict could make it necessary to institute martial law throughout the country or in specific regions (localities), declare a partial or general mobilization, and use all or much of the nation's military-economic capability. A high-intensity conflict could be unleashed against the Republic of Kazakhstan with radical political objectives: change political power in the country, disrupt the administration of government and military command and control, seize a large area of the country, or completely destroy the nation's defense capability. In the event of a high-intensity conflict, the government shall endeavor to use coalition resources and the collective military security systems in which Kazakhstan participates.

### 3.6. International Military Cooperation

The Republic of Kazakhstan's international military cooperation is based on foreign policy and economic expediency with balanced military security as the end in view.

The Republic of Kazakhstan regards the following areas of international military cooperation

as priorities:

- 1) strengthen confidence-building measures and military transparency in the region;
- 2) make every effort to strengthen international regimes for nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, abide by the international standards of trade in arms, materiel, and military and dual purpose technologies, and pertinent international treaties;
- 3) complete the regulatory legal base for military and military-technological cooperation with members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization based on the need to pool efforts to create a single defense space and ensure collective military security, as well as further develop SCTO assets and resources;
- 4) extend the strategic partnership within the Shanghai Cooperation Organization based on common military-political interests;
- 5) expand military and military-technological cooperation with the United States of America and the European Union;
- 6) develop the national peacekeeping capability, take part in joint exercises and share experience in planning, conducting and providing comprehensive logistical support for peacekeeping operations;
- 7) use the NATO method and standards to train peacekeeping units so as to ensure operational compatibility;
- 8) cooperate on a mutually beneficial basis with foreign companies to supply arms and materiel, and set up coproduction in Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan actively cooperates with international security structures in shaping an efficient and modern national security system.

The Republic of Kazakhstan will strengthen cooperation with the Collective Security Treaty Organization within the framework of coalition military capability development aimed at ensuring joint security and collective defense in the event of military aggression.

The Republic of Kazakhstan regards the following areas of coalition military capability development as medium-term priorities:

- 1) update the regulatory legal base for coalition military capability development;
- 2) make the joint planning of use of coalition forces more efficient;
- 3) train troop contingents to carry out mission-specific tasks to ensure joint security and collective defense in accordance with coordinated programs and plans;



- 4) streamline the interaction of collective security assets and resources, and the forms and methods of joint operations;
- 5) create a unified air defense for the CSTO and its regional components;
- 6) step up joint efforts against international terrorism, religious extremism, separatism and drug trafficking;
- 7) participate in the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction;
- 8) set up joint ventures to repair weapons and materiel, carry out joint research and design to upgrade them;
- 9) train military personnel and develop military science.

Peacekeeping is a key component of the Republic of Kazakhstan's collective and national security policy.

Peacekeeping is central to advancing Kazakhstan's military-political positions and interests in international affairs, and also does much to raise the country's standing internationally, which is why the Republic of Kazakhstan will actively participate in UN-mandated peacekeeping operations.

The basic principles of Kazakhstan's participation in peacekeeping operations are impartiality and complete neutrality, no special relations with any party to a conflict, and no direct or indirect abetment of the interests of either party if doing so infringes on the interests of other parties to the conflict.

Central to Kazakhstan's peacekeeping activity is its fundamental position of pooling collective efforts in keeping with UN Security Council decisions and universally recognized international law to ensure regional and international security.

We will continue to develop a regional peacekeeping center to enhance peacekeeping capability.

Units of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations that have been specially trained to international standards shall be responsible for peacekeeping operations. Their participation shall be pursuant to a Kazakhstan Parliamentary decision made in accordance with the Constitution, Kazakh law and ratified international treaties.

The contingent shall be manned with volunteer personnel.

The objectives of international military cooperation can only be achieved through a collective security system combined with expanded and strengthened confidence-building measures and multinational partnership.

### 3.7. Military-Economic Defense Resourcing

The primary goal of military-economic defense resourcing is to supply the military organization with sufficient financial, material-technological and other resources to ensure military security and implement military policy, taking into account Kazakhstan's economic circumstances.

Military-economic defense resourcing must enable the military organization to operate effectively in peacetime and wartime.

The main tasks of military-economic defense resourcing are therefore to:

- 1) prepare the financial-economic system for operation during mobilization, martial law and wartime;
- 2) provide result-oriented financing of at least one percent of GDP to the Armed Forces;
- 3) refine the country's military-technological policy;
- 4) develop national mobilization preparedness.

Military-economic defense resourcing involves the following measures:

- 1) update legislation governing military-economic relations;
- 2) adequately fund the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations on a timely basis to carry out their military security tasks;
- 3) pursue a unified national military-technological policy and set up a national procurement office;
- 4) speed up high tech development of the domestic defense industry to supply the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations with weapons, materiel, special equipment, and defense assets;
- 5) upgrade domestic enterprises which manufacture military and dual purpose products by introducing organizational-economic mechanisms to make them operate and develop efficiently;
- 6) update and upgrade the stock of weapons, materiel and other defense assets using budget appropriations, proceeds from the sale of redundant and idle defense assets and other sources allowed under Kazakhstan law;
- 7) pursue mutually-beneficial bilateral and multilateral international military-technological cooperation;

8) expand cooperation between domestic and foreign enterprises to design, manufacture and repair aviation equipment, armored vehicles and automotive equipment, missile and artillery weapons, communication equipment and ACS, munitions and other types of materiel and special equipment;

9) attract investment, step up innovation to qualitatively update the defense industry's research-and-engineering and manufacturing-technological base, and conduct R&D;

10) develop the domestic military industry's export potential by expanding into new markets and increasing the line and volume of exportable military products;

11) streamline the procedure for state acceptance testing of defense products.

These measures will ensure effective operation of the military organization in peacetime, and mobilization and strategic deployment of the Armed Forces in mid-intensity military conflicts.

### 3.8. Mobilization Preparedness

The purpose of mobilization preparedness is to implement a set of peacetime measures to ensure stable government in wartime, organized changeover of the national economy to meet the needs of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations and the general public, protection and defense of the country, and operation of administrative-territorial units during mobilization, martial law and wartime.

Mobilization preparedness is primarily designed to:

1) improve mobilization preparedness of government agencies as well as organizations that have mobilization orders;

2) enhance mobilization preparedness.

The following measures shall be implemented to achieve mobilization preparedness:

1) update the regulatory legal base for mobilization preparedness and mobilization;

2) prepare the country's territory and economy and spell out the operating conditions of government agencies and organizations during mobilization, martial law and wartime;

3) prepare the public, Armed Forces and other troops and military formations for mobilization, martial law and wartime;

4) train citizens in military occupational specialties to staff the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations for mobilization;

5) prepare requisite production facilities to fill mobilization orders during mobilization, martial

law and wartime;

- 6) maintain and safeguard organizations that have mobilization orders;
- 7) form a mobilization reserve to fill mobilization orders during mobilization, martial law and wartime;
- 8) improve the national material reserve system based on troop location and plans for their deployment and engagement;
- 9) set up, maintain and utilize backup documentation for weapons and materiel and vital civilian products, as well as design documentation for high-risk facilities and critical utilities;
- 10) grant draft deferments during mobilization, martial law and wartime;
- 11) prepare special formations and materiel to supply the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations;
- 12) update the national alert system;
- 13) set up secure stationary command and control centers;
- 14) continue to stockpile weapons, materiel and other defense assets and materials to meet the wartime needs of the Armed Forces.

Under the Mobilization Plan, mobilization assignments and orders shall be issued to government agencies and organizations for the purpose of mobilization preparedness and mobilization in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

An authorized national material reserve agency shall register and store the mobilization reserve assets.

An authorized defense agency shall stockpile and maintain strategic reserves of weapons, materiel, munitions, hardware and other defense assets.

Mobilization preparation will make it possible to carry on the business of government during mobilization, martial law or wartime.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The Republic of Kazakhstan's Military Doctrine establishes the defensive thrust of national military security activity and is based on Kazakhstan's fundamental position that priority shall be given to diplomatic, legal and other nonmilitary measures to resolve antagonisms and conflicts between nations.

The Military Doctrine will be implemented through a set of interconnected political, diplomatic, economic, social, information, legal, military and other measures to further improve a defense system adequate to anticipated threats and the country's socio-economic development.

The Military Doctrine will be revised and supplemented based on world and regional military-political developments, the character and content of external and domestic military security threats, changes in the tenets of military theory, and the development of the country's military organization.

Some points of the Military Doctrine may be fleshed out in the President's annual messages, legislative and other regulatory legal instruments on military security, or in policy documents of the Armed Forces and other troops and military formations.

The Republic of Kazakhstan reiterates its commitment to maintaining international security and preventing military conflicts, and to the principles of noninterference in the internal affairs of other nations.